

CLAIM LISTING:

1. (Currently amended) An easy open, reusable, removable closure apparatus for a container having a terminal end with an orifice and a radially outwardly extending bead having an outer surface and a radially outwardly extending undercut, the closure apparatus comprising:

a cap portion having a top, a peripherally depending side wall comprising an inner surface that conforms to said bead outer surface and a radially inwardly extending peripheral lip that simultaneously engages an entire circumference of said bead undercut sealably securing said closure to said container, wherein a material housed by said container is secured in said container by said cap portion; and

a handle depending from said cap portion, said handle comprising a fulcrum portion that abuts an outer surface of said container neck.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Previously presented) The easy open closure apparatus in claim 1, wherein said cap portion further comprises a peripherally depending skirt, wherein said skirt communicates and depends from said side wall lip and extends radially downward away from said container.

4. (Previously presented) The easy open closure apparatus in claim 1, wherein said handle further comprises an upper portion and a lower portion, and wherein said fulcrum portion is disposed between said upper and lower portions.

5. (Previously presented) The easy open closure apparatus in claim 4, wherein said handle upper portion comprises an inner surface and an outer surface.

6. (Previously presented) The easy open closure apparatus in claim 5, wherein said inner surface abuts an outer surface of said container over an extended length wherein said inner surface is

substantially vertical relative to the plane of said top.

7. (Original) The easy open closure apparatus in claim 4, wherein said handle lower portion communicates and depends from said handle upper portion and further comprises an inner surface and an outer surface.

8. (Previously presented) The easy open closure apparatus in claim 4, wherein said handle lower portion radiates outward from said container such that a gap is formed there between.

9. (Previously presented) The easy open closure apparatus in claim 4, wherein upon application of pressure to an outer surface of said lower handle portion, the side wall lip is lever-action disengaged from the bead undercut.

10. (Original) The easy open closure apparatus in claim 1, wherein said apparatus is comprised of a material selected from the group consisting of metal, plastic, fiberglass, and composites thereof.

11. (Previously presented) The easy open closure apparatus in claim 10, wherein said material allows said cap portion to temporarily deform, allowing said cap portion to disengage said bead and be re-secured to said bead, said cap portion always returning to its original form.

12. (Currently amended) The easy open closure apparatus in claim 10, wherein said material avoids deformation of ~~said~~ a first handle portion and a second handle portions while pressed.

13. (Currently amended) A method of opening a container using the easy open, reusable, removable closure apparatus for a container having a terminal end with an orifice and a radially outwardly extending bead having an outer surface and a radially outwardly extending undercut, the closure apparatus comprising:

a cap portion having a top, a peripherally depending side wall having a radially inwardly extending peripheral lip that simultaneously engages an entire circumference of said bead

undercut sealably securing said closure to said container, wherein a material housed by said container is secured in said container by said cap portion; and

a handle depending from said cap portion, said handle further comprising an upper portion, a lower portion, and a fulcrum portion there between said upper and lower portions, wherein said fulcrum portion abuts an outer surface of a container neck; the method comprising the steps of:

holding said container and the lower handle portion of said handle with at least one hand; and

depressing said lower handle portion toward said container until said peripheral lip disengages said bead undercut.

14. (Currently amended) A method of reusing the easy open, reusable, removable closure apparatus for a container having a terminal end with an orifice and a radially outwardly extending bead having an outer surface and a radially outwardly extending undercut, the closure apparatus comprising:

a cap portion having a top, a peripherally depending side wall having a radially inwardly extending peripheral lip that simultaneously engages an entire circumference of said bead undercut sealably securing said closure to said container, a material housed by said container is secured in said container by said cap portion; and

a handle depending from said cap portion, said handle further comprising an upper portion, a lower portion, and a fulcrum portion there between said upper and lower portions, wherein said fulcrum portion abuts an outer surface of a container neck; the method comprising the steps of:

providing a container; and

pressing said cap portion of the easy open closure apparatus firmly down over said bead until said peripheral lip engages said bead undercut.